



## **City of Norwalk Receives \$10,000 Community Betterment Grant from Prairie Meadows**

March 19, 2014 – The City of Norwalk has received a \$10,000 grant from Prairie Meadows through its 2014 Community Betterment Grant Program.

Norwalk is one of the few Des Moines metro communities that does not connect with the metro trail system. Throughout the year though, grants are available through the Iowa Department of Transportation, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, the Greater Des Moines Metropolitan Planning Authority and others to help fund trails. Norwalk needs to have a comprehensive connectivity plan, identifying future trail connections, right of way, cost estimates, engineering, routes, etc in order to apply for many of the grants available. Norwalk will use the 2014 Prairie Meadows Community Betterment Grant to create a connectivity plan so that the city can apply for effectively for future trail infrastructure grants so the city can get connected to the Great Western Trail.

“We are extremely pleased to have received this funding from Prairie Meadows this year,” said Mayor Tom Phillips. “These funds will help ensure Norwalk is able to complete a comprehensive connectivity plan in order to successfully apply for additional grant monies available through various agencies and organizations.”

The Prairie Meadows Grants Advisory Committee, comprised of community, business and education leaders from the greater Des Moines area, thoroughly review all Community Betterment Grant Applications. After their review the Grant Advisory Committee presents their funding recommendations to the Prairie Meadows Board of Directors for review and approval.

Prairie Meadows has given more than \$1.4 billion through taxes, grants and charitable donations to the state of Iowa. More than \$600 million of that figure has remained right here in our community to promote economic development, agriculture, jobs and tourism.

For additional information on the comprehensive connectivity plan, please contact Josh Heggen, Norwalk Community Development Director at 981-0228 ext 2226 or via email at [JoshH@norwalk.iowa.gov](mailto:JoshH@norwalk.iowa.gov).